

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the following remarks. Claims 1-63 are pending in the application. After entry of the Amendments, claims 1-63 will be pending in the application.

Claim Objections

Informalities in claims 13 and 25 have been amended per the Examiner's request.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 103

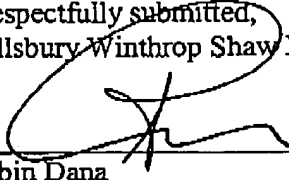
Claims 1-5, 11, 13-17, 23, 25-30, 36-38, 52-53 and 59-63 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moose, U.S. Publication No. 2002/0065047 ("Moose") in view of Crawford, U.S. Patent No. 6,633,616 B2 ("Crawford"). For reasons set forth more fully below, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

As set forth in the accompanying Declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 of inventor and applicant John Thomson, the present invention was conceived and reduced to practice on or before the earliest effective date for the cited art. The effective dates, as defined under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131, of Moose and Crawford are September 18, 2001 and August 21, 2001, respectively. Accordingly, the claims of the present application were invented before the earliest effective date of Moose and Crawford, and so these references are not available as prior art.

All rejections and objections having been addressed, the claims are believed to be in form for allowance, and such action is hereby solicited. If any issues remain which the Examiner feels may be resolved through a telephone interview, s/he is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP

Date: August 31, 2005


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